



**Lyme Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 5, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
UberConference Call**

Present: Blake Allison (Chair and Secretary *pro tem*), Tom Colgan, David Lysy (Alternate) Meg Sheehan and Matt Stevens

Chair Allison called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. He appointed David to serve as a full voting member for the meeting.

Before commencing the business portion of the meeting, Blake presented the document “**A Checklist to Ensure Meetings Are Compliant with The Right-to-Know Law During the State of Emergency.**” (copy attached). Blake explained that because the Lyme Center Academy Building is closed to the public, certain requirements for public meeting access must be met to be in compliance with Governor Sununu’s Executive Order allowing for town boards and committees to meet online.

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2020-09-14

- On a motion by Tom, seconded by Meg, the September meeting minutes were confirmed unanimously with Tom, David and Meg voting in the affirmative. Matt abstained having not attended the 2020-09-14 meeting.

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **Easement Monitoring Program Overseer** – Blake said he is seeking someone to replace James who is stepping down at year’s end. The replacement need not be a member of the Commission, he said.

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Town Forest Management Plan Review** – The Lyme Town Forest is part of the NH Tree Farm Program. One requirement of that membership is that the property be re-inspected every six years to certify it is compliance with its management plan. The current Town Forest management plan dates to July 2013 and was drawn up by Thetford forester Jeff Smith in consultation with the Conservation Commission. As reported by Blake in the Commission’s 2020-09-14 meeting minutes, forester Smith has completed that review.

The review process served as a catalyst for further discussion about the forest’s management. Meg prepared some notes to provide a framework for discussion (see attached). After consideration, it was agreed to draw up a list of companies with the expertise and practice needed to conduct a survey of the Town Forest’s resources such as vernal pools and natural plant communities. The survey’s scope should also evaluate archeological and historical aspects of the forest. There was consensus that drawing up guidelines for usage should be considered too. Matt and Blake volunteered to develop a list of potential companies suited to addressing these concerns.



4. Project and Application Review

- **Pike: Dorchester Road/Reservoir Pond House Addition** – The submitted proposal is to construct an addition to the existing house essentially doubling the size of its footprint. All of the new construction will be in the Shoreland Protection District (SPD). Members of the Commission expressed concern about the structure's size and proximity to Reservoir Pond. It was also noted that the hand drawn site plan did not clearly show the project's specifics. It was agreed that a site visit likely would be necessary.
- **Alverson: 143 River Rd. House Addition** -- The project proposal is to replace an existing deck with a first-floor bedroom. The added area will be 388 sf, all in the Shoreland Protect District. After some discussion, the Commission members voted unanimously to approve the plan as presented with the proviso that three areas of concern need to be addressed. 1) Will the septic remain in compliance with the addition of another bedroom? 2) How will the increased runoff, caused by loss of permeable surface, be managed? 3) What "best practices" will be implemented? Blake said he would send a letter to the ZBA informing it of the decision. He also said he would pursue the Commissions' concerns with the relevant parties.

5. Outreach and Education

- **No Items Submitted**

6. Other Business

- **No Items Submitted**

7. Publicity

- Blake will supply an article for the October/November Lyme Community and Church News

8. Adjournment

On a motion by Matt, seconded by Tom, the meeting was adjourned ending the teleconference call at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Blake Allison, Chair and Secretary *pro tem*

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If matters of business warrant it, the next meeting of the Lyme Conservation Commission will take place via remote teleconference on Monday, November 2, 2020 beginning at 5:00 p.m.